

At page 8, line 16, delete "immunoconjugats" and insert therefor –immunoconjugates–; and at line 32, delete the comma after the second occurrence of "antibody".

At page 22, line 1, please center "ABSTRACT" and insert, centered, at the top of the page –EPHA2 AS A THERAPEUTIC TARGET FOR METASTATIC CANCER–.

REMARKS

Claims 1, 16 and 20 having been amended and claims 24-57 having been added, the claims pending to the above-identified patent application are claims 1-57.

The title is changed to better describe the claimed invention. The other amendments to the specification are made to correct typographical errors.

The amendments to claims 1 and 20 are made to clarify the claimed subject matter. The amendment to claim 16 is supported by the specification at, for example, page 5, line 29.

New claim 24 is supported by claim 1 as originally filed; the recitation of metastatic invasion is supported, for example, by the specification at page 2, lines 10-12; page 10, lines 20-23; and page 12, lines 31-32. Claims 25-27 are supported by originally filed claims 2-5, respectively. The recitation of particular cytotoxic agents in claims 28 and 29 is supported by the specification at page 8, lines 15-24.

Claim 30 directed to a pharmaceutical composition for treatment of a mammalian metastatic cancer comprising, *inter alia*, a compound having at least one biological activity selected from the group consisting of an ability to specifically bind to EphA2, an ability to alter the expression of EphA2, and an ability to stimulate EphA2, is supported by the specification at, for example, page 2, line 12, page 3, lines 16-18 and page 4, lines 7-11. Claim 31, reciting an antibody or an ephrin, is supported by the specification at, for example, page 4, line 11, and page 3, lines 1-8. Claims 32 and 37, directed to an antibody that binds to an extracellular epitope of EphA2, are supported by originally filed claim 7. Claims 33 and 35 are supported by originally filed claims 3 and 9, respectively. The recitation of a detectable label in claim 34 is supported by the specification at, for example, page 3, lines 29-30. The recitation of a humanized antibody

in claim 36 is supported by the specification at, for example, page 7, lines 14-19. Claims 38-41, directed to a compound comprising an antibody and a cytotoxic agent, are supported by the specification at, for example, page 8, lines 15-23. Claims 42-45 are supported by the claims as originally filed and by specification at, for example, page 5, lines 14-16 and page 6, lines 10-13.

Claim 46, directed to a method of treatment comprising administering to a cancer patient a therapeutically effective amount of a compound that targets EphA2, is supported by 6 as originally filed and by the specification at page 6, lines 13-22. The recitation of metastatic or potentially metastatic cancer cells is supported by the specification at, for example, page 9, lines 23-32. Claims 47 and 48 are supported, for example, by claim 7 as originally filed and by the specification at page 6, lines 9-13. Claims 49 and 50 are supported by originally filed claims 10 and 4, respectively. Claim 51, reciting prevention or slowing of metastasis of potentially metastatic cancer cells, is supported by the specification at, for example, page 10, lines 12 bridging to page 11, line 22. Claim 47 and 48, reciting reduction or prevention or proliferation or tissue invasion, respectively, or metastatic cancer cells, are supported by the specification at, for example, page 2, lines 10-12; page 10, lines 20-23; and page 12, lines 31-32. Claim 54 is supported by, for example, claim 12 as originally filed. Claim 55, reciting an antisense oligonucleotide, is supported by, for example, the specification at page 3, line 11. The recitation of epithelial cells in claim 56 is supported by the specification at, for example, page 5, line 12. Claim 57, directed to a method for identifying an EphA2 antibody that is selective for EphA2 in metastatic cancer cells, is supported by the specification at, for example, page 14, line 16, bridging to page 15, line 7.

Preliminary Amendment

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For: EPHA2 AS A THERAPEUTIC TARGET FOR METASTATIC CANCER (As Amended)

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The Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' Representative at the below-listed telephone number if it is believed that the prosecution of the above-identified application can be in any way assisted or expedited thereby.

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.10:


Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.10, I verify that this application is being deposited on this 14th day of February 2001 with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231. "Express Mail" mailing label number: EL 776902517 US.


Kimberly A. Hayes

14 February 2001
Date

VAS/kah

Respectfully submitted,
Michael S. KINCH et al.
By their Representatives,
Muetting, Raasch & Gebhardt, P.A.
P.O. Box 581415
Minneapolis, MN 55458-1415
(612)305-1220

By: 
Victoria A. Sandberg
Reg. No. 41,287
Direct Dial (612)305-1226